Of old He Who buried the pursuing tyrant beneath the waves of the sea, now is cloaked and hidden in the stream of Jordan!

As Man He is cleansed that I may be made clean,

For gloriously has He been glorified!
Heirmos 3

Thou didst suspend the earth upon the waters;

now creation beholds Thee in the flesh, covered by the streams.

It was seized with great amazement, and cried:

“None is holy but Thee, O Lord!”
Foreseeing Thy coming to be baptized, Habakkuk cried out "Thou hast trampled the sea with Thy horses, O Deliverer, troubling many waters!"
I saw the never-setting light of Thy compassionate manifestation to us as God, O Christ. Rising early from the night he cried out: “Come, all who are enlightened and wash yourselves! Cleanse your souls and bodies through divine water and the Spirit!”
The divine Baptist was caught but not held fast by fear.

For though grass withers before the fire, yet he heard the words of Christ: “Let it be so now!” And ran in obedience to fulfill the command. From on high, he heard the voice of God bearing testimony to the pre- eternal Son!
Inexpressible wonder! He Who saved the
Holy Youths in the furnace from the flame, now bows His_
head and asks for Baptism from His servant
for the cleansing of us who sing: “Blessed art
Thou, O God, our Redeemer!”
Be amazed, O heavens! Be shaken, O foundations of the earth! Behold, He Who once caused the sacrifice of His righteous prophet to burn wondrously with water wraps Himself in the waters of Jor dan! Bless Him, O youths, praise Him, O priests!
O people, exalt Him above all, forever!
Do not weep, O mortal men, choked with ropes of despair and weighed low with guilt. Let us approach with compassion of soul, the One Who cleanses all mankind: the only Pure One grants pardon through Baptism!